



News Release

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Motorized Boat Access Restricted on Portions of Anahuac and McFaddin Refuges

Anahuac, Texas - Due to ongoing drought conditions, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) has restricted motorized boat access on two National Wildlife Refuge's along the Gulf Coast of Texas.

Until further notice, the Middleton Tract Waterfowl Hunt Area on Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge and the Central Unit Waterfowl Hunt Area on McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge are closed. This restriction is effective immediately and will be re-evaluated as conditions improve.

Hunters will be able to access both the Middleton Tract Hunt Unit and the Central Hunt Unit via non-motorized boat and by accessing the units on foot. The operation of motorized boats through emergent wetland vegetation and mudflats is also prohibited.

Recent drought conditions have reduced the amount of water available in the marshes, bayous, canals, and other navigable waterways. The drought has also caused extreme wildfire danger throughout the hunt units. Additionally, navigation hazards may exist in waterways, and access from boat ramps may be difficult. All hunters are encouraged to use extreme caution throughout the Refuges.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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